The background of the slide features a sepia-toned photograph of a classical building. On the left, a portion of a columned portico is visible. On the right, a large dome is partially shown. The central area is a light beige gradient where the text is placed.

Colonial Churches in the Philippines

(Also Identified as National Cultural Treasures)

Done by: Sugar Ruizo

INTRODUCTION

The Philippines is home to hundreds of centuries-old Spanish colonial churches. Built at the height of Spanish Influence in the archipelago, these churches still stand out from the country's modern cityscapes and continue to play a key role in the spiritual development of the country's 58 million Catholics. Although these churches have remained largely intact for centuries , the ravages of population and urban development have taken their toll on these edifices.



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

- San Carlos Borromeo
Mahatao, Batanes



This 19th century church , built by Dominican order, includes a stone beaterio, or house for laywomen , as well as other structures that served as guides for offshore fishermen to find their way home

- San Carlos Borromeo Church

Architectural features

- ❖ The church is made of stone and lime, common building materials in Batanes.
- ❖ An ***espadaña* belfry** is located on top of the facade's pediment with one of its bells dated 1874.
- ❖ The church has uneven wall thickness due to addition of step buttresses and even buttress walls.
- ❖ Its interiors, decorated in Baroque style, showcase **floral designs sunburst ornaments** painted in polychrome and gilt which lends a golden glow among the statuary.
- ❖ The second floor of the convent is not the typical ***volada* or cantilevered gallery** for convents in the Philippines but an open extended deck.

- San Carlos Borromeo Church



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

St. Andrew the Apostle Church: Bacarra ,Ilocos Norte



The Parish church of St Andrew the Apostle was first constructed at the end of the 16th century by the Augustinians but was destroyed by earthquakes in 1700s. The present structure was built by *Fr. Juan Martin* in the mid 19th century.

St. Andrew the Apostle Church: Bacarra ,Ilocos Norte

Architectural features

- ❖ Rectangular in shape
- ❖ Supported by large buttresses
- ❖ Noteworthy are its baptismal area , and its dome-like brick roofing.
- ❖ an unaltered rectangular shaped brick deep well with stairs.



St. Andrew the Apostle Church: Bacarra ,Ilocos Norte



Colonial Churches in the Philippines
San Agustin Paoay, Ilocos Norte



Architect: Father Antonio Estavillo

Construction on this church began in 1694 and was completed in the early 17th century.

San Agustin Paoay, Ilocos Norte

Architectural features

- ❖ The most striking feature of Paoay Church is the 24 huge buttresses of about 1.67 metres (5.5 ft) thick at the sides and back of the church building.
- ❖ Its walls are made of large coral stones on the lower part and bricks at the upper levels
- ❖ The stone facade appears as massive pediment rising from the ground and is built leaning towards the front. **Square pilasters** and **stringed cornices** divide the facade vertically and horizontally respectively. Its bottom part is plain.
- ❖ Gothic features are also present through the use of **finials** while the triangular pediment shows Chinese elements and Oriental strokes.
- ❖ Adjacent to the facade is a **three-storey coral bell tower** constructed separately from the church building on the right side resembling a pagoda. It was in 1793 when the cornerstone of the bell tower was laid.

San Agustin Paoay, Ilocos Norte



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

San Guillermo Ermitaño: Magsingal, Ilocus Sur



San Guillermo Ermitaño: Magsingal, Ilocus Sur

Architectural features

❖ The pulpit and retablo adorning the altar of this church are of the Baroque style.

❖ The side-walls are reinforced by steep buttresses reminiscent of similar structures found on the exterior of European Gothic churches.



San Guillermo Ermitaño: Magsingal, Ilocus Sur



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

San Reymundo De Peñaforte: Cagayan, Rizal



- ❖ Archdiocese in Tuguegarao
- ❖ 17th century-Dominican-built

San Reymundo De Peñaforte: Cagayan, Rizal



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

Santa Catalina de Alejandria: Tayum, Abra



Built by secular clergy in 19th century, this church features **palayok** art motifs.

Santa Catalina de Alejandria: Tayum, Abra



Santa Catalina de Alejandria: Tayum, Abra

Architectural features

- ❖ The church is predominantly **Baroque** in style

- ❖ Its first level is devoid of any embellishment or fenestration save for the main semicircular arched portal and the **wave-like cornices** and rounded, **high-relief pilasters**.

- ❖ The curved pediment ends smoothly into two **large volutes** which seat beside two, large, urn-like finials.

- ❖ To the right of the façade stands the four-tiered bell tower with its rectangular base and octagonal upper levels.



Santa Catalina de Alejandria: Tayum, Abra

TAYUM CHURCH

NATIONAL CULTURAL TREASURE



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

San Matias: Tumauni, Isabela



Architect: Fr. Domingo Forto

Built by the Dominicans in 1980's. It may be the considered as the best and most artistic brick structure in the Philippines.

San Matias: Tumauni, Isabela

Architectural features

- ❖ Tumauni is an **ultra-baroque church known for its extensive use of red bricks** on its exterior and interior ornamentations. Brick was used due to lack of good quality stones in the area.
- ❖ The church's circular pediment is unique relative to all other churches built during the Spanish Era
- ❖ A closer look at the brick façade shows numbers and dates for the correct sequence of the bricks in **Forto's design**.
- ❖ The façade is flanked by **two pseudo-Corinthian columns** and niches, one located above the entrance and the two remaining larger niches on each side of the columns.

San Matias: Tumauni, Isabela

Architectural features

❖ Attached to the church's façade is a unique cylindrical belfry built in 1805. It is the only known Spanish colonial era cylindrical tower in the country. The tiered belfry notably resembles a wedding cake.

The bell housed within has bullet holes but was never recast.

❖ The ruins of the church's *convento* (clergy house) are located on the gospel side of the church.



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

La Asuncion de la Nuestra Señora : Santa Maria, Ilocos Sur



The parish of Santa Maria started as a chapel-of-ease (*visita*) of Narvaca, its neighbouring town to the north, in 1567. The influx of the settlers after the full conquest of the Ilocos Region by the Spaniards greatly increased the population of Santa Maria.

La Asuncion de la Nuestra Señora : Santa Maria, Ilocos Sur

Architectural features

- ❖ The church brick façade has one large portal with three windows. The recessed arched entrance is flanked by a pair of rectangular pilaster dividing the façade into three well-defined planes.
- ❖ The bell tower is freestanding, constructed separate from the church and not parallel to the facade but situated about a third of the wall from the front.
- ❖ The church measures about 99 meters (325 ft) long and 22.7 meters (74 ft) wide.
- ❖ The church follows the standard Philippine layout with the facade fronting a long single nave rectangular building.

La Asuncion de la Nuestra Señora : Santa Maria, Ilocos Sur



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

Santa Catalina de Alejandria: Luna, La Union



Since 1587, Namacpacan was a visita of Purao (presently known as Balaoan). In November 25, 1690, the town was founded and a parish under the advocacy of Saint Catherine of Alexandria was canonically erected. The first church of Namacpacan was built under the supervision of **Father Mateo Bustillos**, the parish priest from 1695 to 1697.

Santa Catalina de Alejandria: Luna, La Union

Architectural features

- ❖ Namacpacan Church is classified as an **Earthquake Baroque** church with thick walls and buttresses connected to a brick exterior stairway of different designs and shapes.
- ❖ A ceremonial archway or **capilla possa** can be found at the church's entrance
- ❖ Its 1872 white and yellow facade falls under the Baroque style with the presence of rounded pediments.
- ❖ Three sets of two pairs of engaged columns and two sets of single columns along with twin belfries adorning the façade.
- ❖ Its **convento** is now used as a school

Santa Catalina de Alejandria: Luna, La Union



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

San Vicente Ferrer Dupax, Nueva Visacaya



This Dominican Church was established in the late 18th century. Features baptistery and narthex pillars covered with finely carved stucco. The church convent's retains some features from its violent past, such as slits on the outer walls which were used by archers to defend against attacks

San Vicente Ferrer Dupax, Nueva Visacaya



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

San Pedro y San Pablo: Calacao, Pangasinan (1588)



The church has survived several earthquakes and remains among the province's best preserved church complexes despite restoration work on some parts.

San Pedro y San Pablo: Calaciao, Pangasinan (1588)

Architectural features

- ❖ Its unique architectural design reflects the Spanish and Latin American architecture integration of indigenous Philippines works of art with Chinese style fusion
- ❖ Its massive bricks or **ladrillo** had been designed to withstand revolts and rebellions, due to its fortresses facade.
- ❖ Its massive retablo mayor is massive and complex woodwork is seen at the back



San Pedro y San Pablo: Calaciao, Pangasinan (1588)



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

San Andres: Mansiloc, Zambales



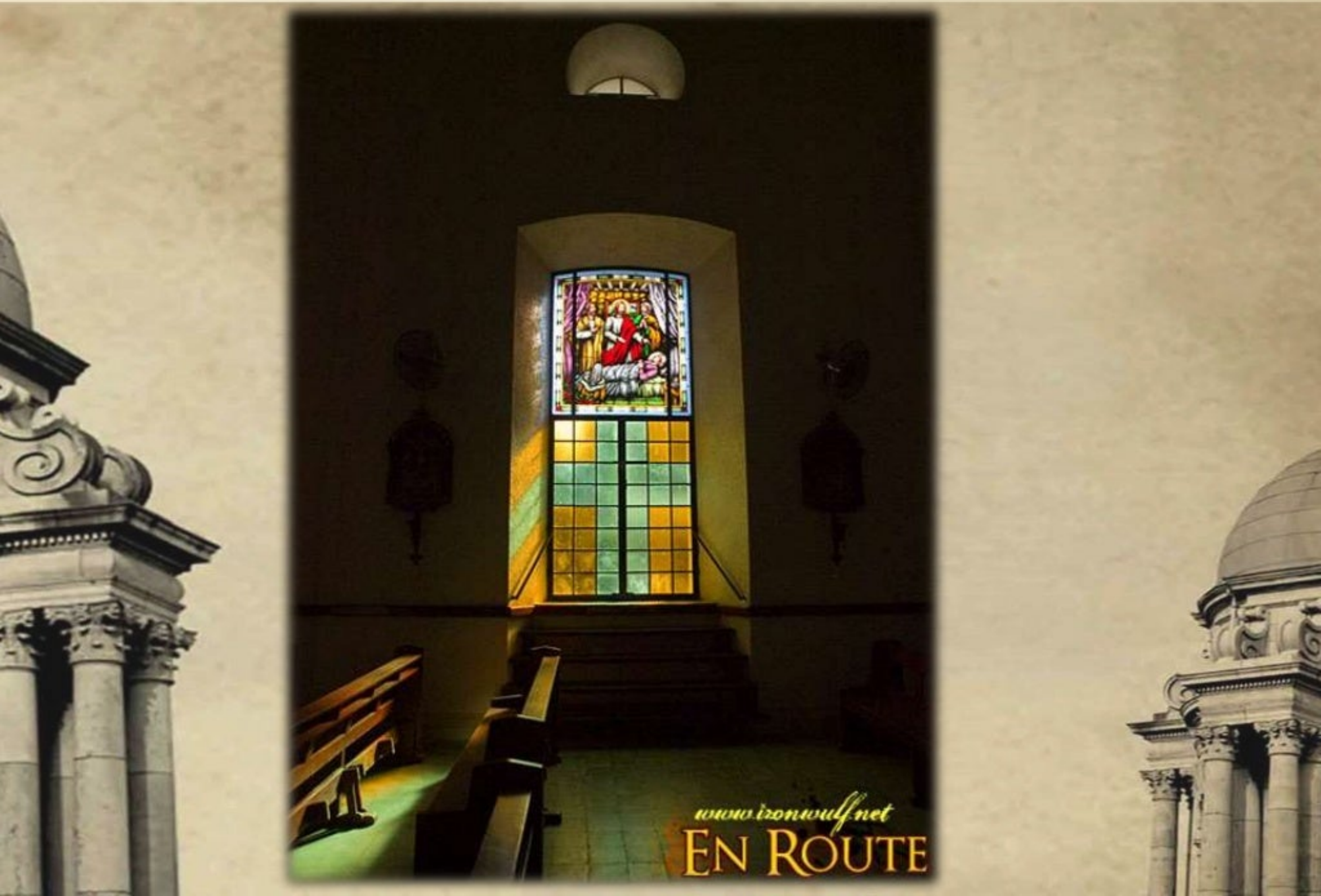
The exact date of construction of the present coral stone church cannot be traced although some records tell that a certain Father Francisco de San Guillermo requested for the construction of the church and convent in 1616 using materials that were also used in the construction of a fortification.

San Andres: Mansiloc, Zambales

Architectural features

- ❖ The façade of the church is predominantly of **Barn-style Baroque with Neo-classic features.**
- ❖ The front is divided into the triangular pediment, two horizontal sections and three vertical ones with an extended left portion forming the bell tower.
- ❖ It features saints' niches on the first level, rectangular windows on the second and an elaborately carved niche of the town's patron saint and carving of geometric shapes and medallions on the pediment.
- ❖ **Triglyphs** decorate the architrave between the second level and the pediment, giving the church a classical appearance. The belfry is designed like a circular temple surmounted with a lantern and a cross

San Andres: Mansiloc, Zambales



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EN ROUTE

Colonial Churches in the Philippines

Santiago Apostol: Betis, Pampanga



The baroque-inspired Betis Church was built around 1660 under **Father José de la Cruz**. The preliminary structure was made out of light materials which was composed mainly of **wood and stucco**. Fire broke out within the church several times due to these light materials so it was finally built with concrete materials in 1770.

Santiago Apostol: Betis, Pampanga

Architectural features

❖ The unique design of Betis Church reflects the integration of **Spanish and Latin American architecture** to indigenous architecture, including elements of Oriental style during the Spanish colonial era.

❖ The religious frescoes in the ceiling and murals on the wall with its intricate sculpture and paintings in gold dust are reminiscent of the Renaissance age of European Art. One can behold the majesty of its ceiling, walls and the altar from the aisle near the main door

❖ The **retablo, a classic altar**, is ornately decorated with carved designs

Santiago Apostol: Betis, Pampanga



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

Nuestra Señora De los Desamparados: Sta. Ana, Manila



The Spaniards established settlements in Santa Ana that served as the seat of Namayan, with the area awarded to the Franciscan missionaries. They were the first to establish a mission beyond the walls of Intramuros, the Spanish colonial seat of power in Manila, in 1578. The church as it stands today was first built in 1720 and is known as the **National Shrine of Our Lady of the Abandoned (Nuestra Senora de los Desamparados)**.

Nuestra Señora De los Desamparados: Sta. Ana, Manila



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

San Ildefonso: Tanay Rizal



In 1678, Fr. Pedro de Espallargas initiated the building of a stone church and the first church was completed in 1680 through the contributions of churchgoers and devotees of Purísima Concepción. The first mass was celebrated on April 20, 1680.

San Ildefonso: Tanay Rizal

Architectural features

❖ This church features **five-panel retablo done in Rococo Style, As well as Via Crucis** with remarkable indigenous motifs

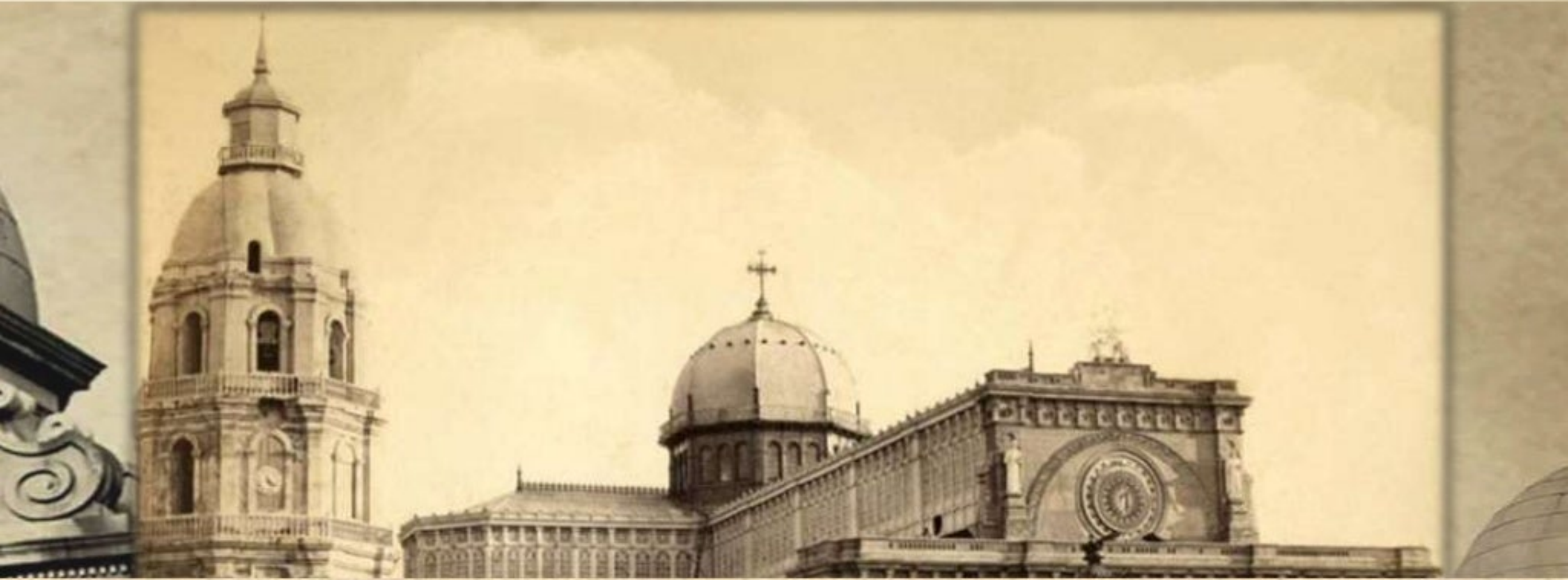
❖ The carvings are depicted to have **Malay features** as evidenced by the brown skin of the natives and their **squat figures**, all of which are believed to have created by native **Tanay artists**. Some distinct depictions are borrowed from the native culture such as the "**Tambuli**" made of carabao and the ***bolo*** instead of the typical Roman sword.

San Ildefonso: Tanay Rizal

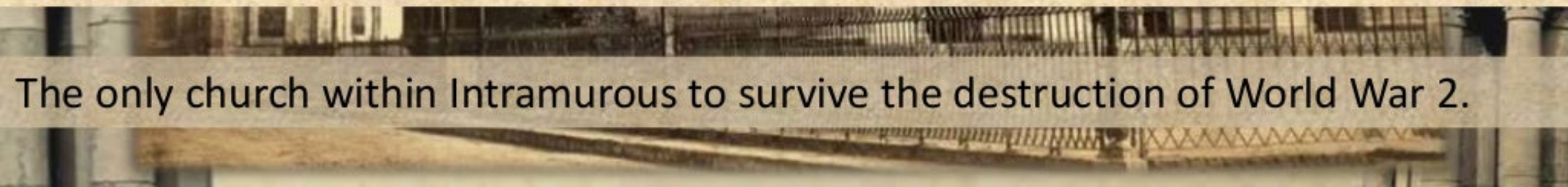


Colonial Churches in the Philippines

La Inmaculada Concepcion: Intramuros, Manila



The cathedral was originally a parish church owned and governed by the **Archdiocese of Mexico in 1571**, until it became a separate diocese on 6 February 1579 upon the issuance of the papal bull, ***Illius Fulti Praesido*** by **Pope Gregory XIII**.



The only church within Intramuros to survive the destruction of World War 2.

La Inmaculada Concepcion: Intramuros, Manila

Architectural features

❖ This structure features tromped **l'oeil paintings** in its interior as well as the earliest **retablo, pulpit, choir, lactern and chior stalls.**

❖ The church also features a **crypt house** the remains of Manila's founder, Miguel Lopez de Legazpi , Filipinio patriot and artist Juan Luna, And other prominent historical personages.

La Inmaculada Concepcion (Manila Cathedral)



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

La Asuncion de la Nuestra Señora: Maragondon Cavite



La Asuncion de la Nuestra Señora: Maragondon Cavite

Architectural features

- ❖ This Augustinian Recollect church features intricate galleon and floral motifs in its pulpit and church doors, which dates from the Jesuits.
- ❖ Bell tower and lower portion is made up of river stones.
- ❖ The church also features a distinctive horeshoe-shaped communion rail



La Asuncion de la Nuestra Señora: Maragondon Cavite



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

La Inmaculada Concepcion: Balayan, Batangas



In 1575 the Augustinians made Balayan a visita of Bombon, now [Taal](#). Balayan originally comprised what are now the independent towns and parishes of Nasugbu, Lian, Calatagan, Tuy, and Calaca. In 1578, however, this territory was turned over to the Franciscans who in turn passed Balayan to the Jesuits in 1591.

La Inmaculada Concepcion: Balayan, Batangas

Architectural features

- ❖ Planks of narra were used for the floor of the nave, while blue and white tiles were fitted to the main altar.
- ❖ An extension was added behind the church to serve as an ante sacristy in 1878.
- ❖ The decorative iron grilles were put around the atrium in 1887. The **camapanario** was repaired in 1892 with bricks instead of stones used for the upper second and third stories



La Inmaculada Concepcion: Balayan, Batangas



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

Basilica of San Michael Arcangel: Tayabas, Quezon



The Catholic community of Tayabas was established in 1578 by Franciscan priests **Fray Juan Portocarrero de Plasencia** and **Fray Diego de Oropesa de San José**, known as the Apostles of Laguna and Tayabas. In 1580, the town of Tayabas was established as a parish with **St. Michael the Archangel** as its designated patron saint in 1580.

Basilica of San Michael Arcangel: Tayabas, Quezon

Architectural features

- ❖ The church at Tayabas is generally considered to be **Baroque architecture**. It is included in a list of more than 30 churches declared National Cultural Treasures by the National Museum of the Philippines.
- ❖ The influence of **Chinese architecture** in Tayabas is present in the design of Tayabas Basilica. **Lion statues** in front of the building show a link to the influence of Chinese traders before the Spanish colonial era. **Cherubs** in stone reliefs playing the lute, trombone, drum and trumpet can be seen in the church patio.
- ❖ Tayabas Basilica has a unique floor plan that resembles a key.



Basilica of San Michael Arcangel: Tayabas, Quezon

Architectural features

- ❖ Tayabas Basilica's interior is built in the **Neo-Classical style** with seven altars. An image of the *Nuestra Señora de los Angeles* ("Our Lady of Angels") stands in the central retablo of the altar.
- ❖ The basilica's 18th century clock was erected in early 1900 on the belfry; **it is one of the oldest and largest church clocks in Asia**. The clock is 0.5 m (1.6 ft) tall and has a circumference of 42 cm (1.38 ft). The hour and minute hands are 0.5 m (1.6 ft) and 62 cm (2.03 ft) long respectively.

Basilica of San Michael Arcangel: Tayabas, Quezon



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

Nuestra Señora dela Porteria: Daraga, Albay



The present church of Daraga was built under the Franciscan priests in 1773.^[2] Built at the time that Daraga was a *visita* of Cagsawa, the church was erected atop a hill in barangay Santa Maria overlooking the Mayon Volcano.

Nuestra Señora dela Porteria: Daraga, Albay

Architectural features

❖ The church is known for its **Churrigueresque architectural** style in its façade, a fine example of Baroque architecture. The façade and its walls are made out of volcanic rocks, which are rich in the area. The white façade is the result of a coating of lime for protection from deterioration.

❖ It is one of the few churches in the country that has four spiral columns known as Solomonic columns or *salomónicas*. The four columns bear round medallions, each with carved images of the four Evangelists.

❖ **The octagonal belltower**, located on the left side of the church, has carved images of the twelve apostles distributed in the base's six faces. The **tower has four levels**, each tapered upwards and topped with a dome and cross.

Nuestra Señora dela Porteria: Daraga, Albay



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

San Bautista: Tabaco, Albay



Tabaco church was established as a *visita* by the Franciscans under the patronage of Saint [John the Baptist](#) in 1587. It was separated from Cagsaua in 1616 when Father Pedro de Alcareso was named as parish priest.

Architectural features

- ❖ The church is built out of dark volcanic soil and stones found in the area.
- ❖ One unusual characteristic of the church is the presence of **mason's marks** on stones used for the construction of the church building, a rare feature in the Philippines
- ❖ Its unusual floor plan contains compartments for which there is currently no explanation.
- ❖ It is known for its beautiful and bell tower embedded with **rococo** designs.



San Bautista: Tabaco, Albay



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

Cathedral de San Jose: Romblon, Romblon



Cathedral de San Jose: Romblon, Romblon

Architectural features

- ❖ Erected in 1974, the diocese has experienced no jurisdictional changes, and is a suffragan of the Archdiocese of Capiz.
- ❖ The Interior of this church, constructed by the Augustinian Recollects, features Baroque-style retablos.



Cathedral de San Jose: Romblon, Romblon



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Photo by Ivan Anthony S. Henares ©2006
<http://ivanhenares.blogspot.com>

Colonial Churches in the Philippines

Santa Monica: Pan-ay, Capiz



The missionaries who went with the expeditions of the would-be Spanish colonizers were the Augustinian friars. They accomplished many significant firsts in the history of the Philippines. It was they who fanned out from Cebu to the other islands of the archipelago, including Panay.

Santa Monica: Pan-ay, Capiz

Architectural features

❖ The church, built in the **Filipino Colonial Baroque style** with **Neo-Classical influence**, is a grand structure of coral stone that is 70 meters long, 25 meters wide and 18 meters high.

❖ The walls are 3 meters (or about 10 feet) thick and the floor is covered with marble.

❖ Its structure is shaped in the form of a **Latin cross** with one large central altar and four lateral ones, each fitted with gorgeously decorated and gilded retablos of hardwood, decorated with various **polychrome statues** of high artistic quality.

Santa Monica: Pan-ay, Capiz

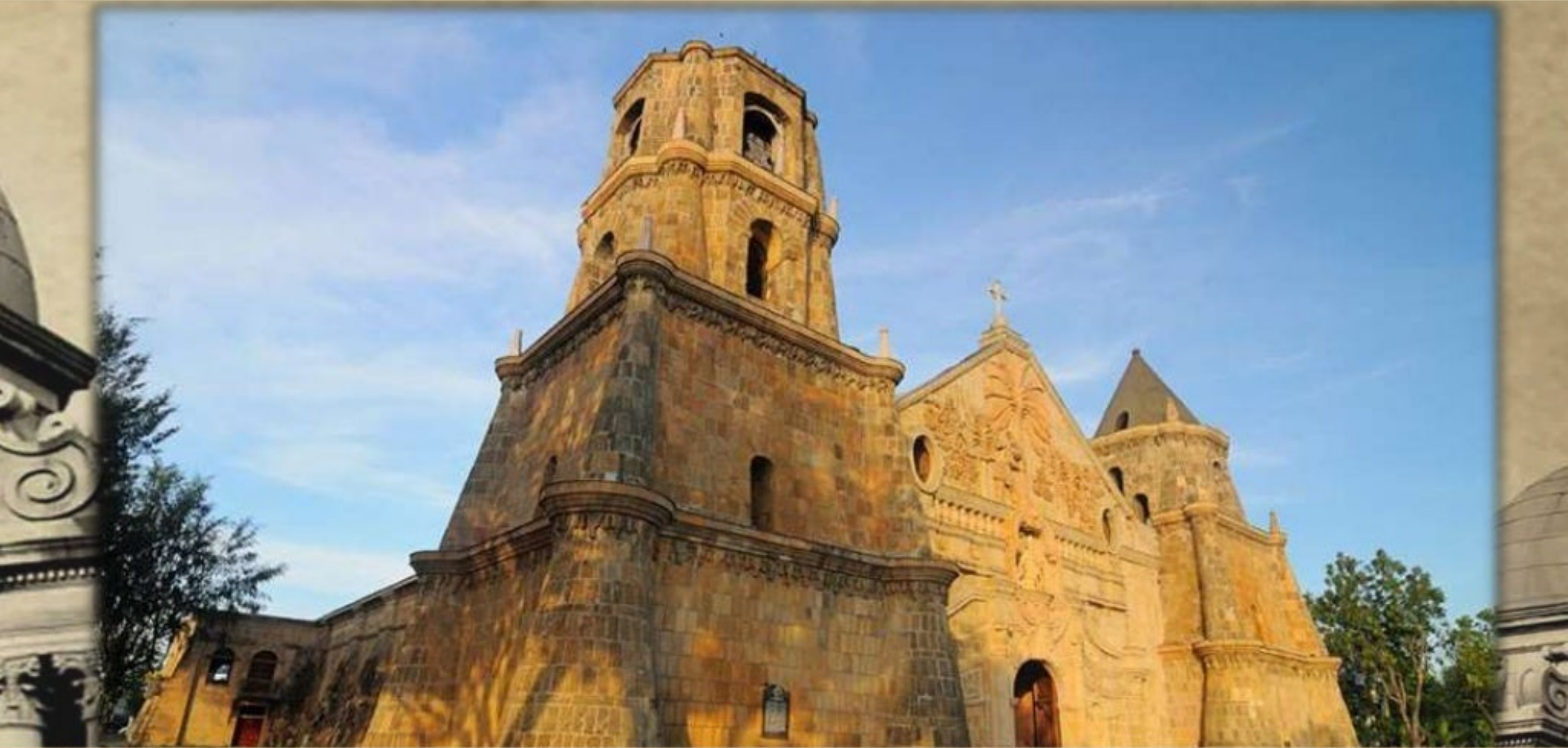
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Colonial Churches in the Philippines

Santo Tomas de Villanueva: Miag-ao, Iloilo



Miagao was formerly a visita of **Oton until 1580**, Tigbauan until 1592, San Joaquin until 1703 and Guimbal until 1731. It became an independent parish of the Augustinians in 1731 under the **advocacy of Saint Thomas of Villanova**.

Santo Tomas de Villanueva: Miag-ao, Iloilo

Architectural features

❖ The church's over-all architectural style falls under **the Baroque Romanesque architectural style**.

❖ Its ochre color is due to the materials used in constructing the **church, adobe, egg, coral and limestone**.

❖ The church's foundation is **6 meters deep**

❖ and the massive stone walls at **1.5 meters thick** are intensified through the use of **4 meter thick flying buttresses** as protection to the **Moro invaders** as stipulated under Royal Decree 111 of 1573 (Law of the Indies).



Santo Tomas de Villanueva: Miag-ao, Iloilo



Roy de Guzman

Colonial Churches in the Philippines

San Joaquin: Iloilo



San Joaquin: Iloilo

Architectural features

❖ The main church in town, a Roman Catholic parish was built in 1869 by Spanish priest **Reverend Tomas Santaren**

❖ The church is unique among those in the Philippines for its large pediment featuring a military scene, the Spanish victory over the Moors in the Battle of Tetuan.



San Joaquin: Iloilo



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Colonial Churches in the Philippines

La Inmaculada Concepcion: Guiuan, Eastern Samar



Guiuan (also spelled as *Guiguan*) was founded by the **Jesuits in 1595**. It was handed over to the Augustinians upon instructions from the Spanish colonial government due to the Jesuits Suppression in 1768. It was then transferred to the Franciscans in 1795 but due to lack of priests, **Father Miguel Pérez, the first Franciscan priest of Guiuan was only assigned in 1804.**

La Inmaculada Concepcion: Guiuan, Eastern Samar

Architectural features

❖ Due to Typhoon Haiyan, all of its original retablo, roof (**dated 1700s**) and other church relics were unfortunately damaged

❖ Only the stone walls and bell tower remained standing. Restoration of the church is on-going under the supervision of the National Museum of the Philippines.



La Inmaculada Concepcion: Guiuan, Estern Samar



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

Parroquia dela Santa Cruz: Maribojoc, Bohol



The Jesuits started evangelizing the town of Maribojoc (originally *Malabojoc*) as a mission station in the early **1600s**. It was built in the settlement along the **Abatan River at Viga, now part of Antequera**, including a church built by **Father Gabriel Sánchez**. The parish was founded in 1767 or 1768.

Parroquia dela Santa Cruz: Maribojoc, Bohol

Architectural features

- ❖ Its façade was simply decorated by narrow pilasters and niches of saints
- ❖ The church of Maribojoc resembled a **cross or cruciform** with a low, **four-sided pyramidical roof and octagonal cupola**.
- ❖ The belltower of Maribojoc had seven bells and two windows with clock faces. One of the clocks, installed **on October 15, 1893** during the term of Father Lucas Martínez, had an inscription of "José Altonaga", indicating that it came from a well-known company in Manila during the late 19th century.
- ❖ Maribojoc had five **intricately carved Neo-Gothic retablos in the sanctuary and transepts**

Parroquia dela Santa Cruz: Maribojoc, Bohol



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

Nuestra Senora de la Luz: Loon, Bohol



The Jesuits established the parish of Loon on **June 22, 1753** under the patronage of the Our Lady of Light, locally known as ***Birhen sa Kasilac***. It is believed that the first Jesuit church was located in the downtown area called ***Napo (formerly the town's center) along the sea***. The center, including the church, was moved in the **upper portion called *Moto*** due to pirate raids.

Nuestra Senora de la Luz: Loon, Bohol

Architectural features

❖ The church forms a wide **rectangular plan** with an internal transept and a crossing surmounted by a **quadrangular pyramid**.

❖ Inside the church, the narthex with *azulejos* flooring has a ceiling painting known as "*The Entry into Jerusalem*".

❖ There are **three neogothic *retablos*** in Loon: one ***retablo-mayor*** and two side ***retablos*** in each side of the transept. Located in the sanctuary is the beautifully carved *retablo-mayor* which houses the image of the patroness, ***Nuestra Señora de la Luz*** in the central niche.



Nuestra Senora de la Luz: Loon, Bohol



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

Immaculada Concepcion de la Vergen Maria: Baclayon, Bohol



The Jesuits, the first evangelizers of the Baclayon, planted the first seed of Christianity in Bohol upon the request of Doña Catalina de Bolaños, mother of the encomendero of Bohol island, Pedro de Gamboa to Father Antonio Sedeno, mission superior of Leyte and Samar.

Immaculada Concepcion de la Vergen Maria: Baclayon, Bohol

Architectural features

- ❖ A **Baroque and Neoclassical pulpit** made in the 1870s is located on the right side (epistle) of the church, facing the altar.
- ❖ The church, built out of **coral stones**, is a **cross shaped (cruciform)** church with its juncture or crossing surmounted by a pyramidal wall.
- ❖ The facade is simply designed with its upper half hidden by an extended choir loft which houses an **1824 pipe organ**.
- ❖ The *retablo mayor* has inscription of the Jesuit motto, *Ad maiorem Dei gloriam* which gave the idea that the Jesuits left Baclayon with this church altar.



Immaculada Concepcion de la Vergen Maria: Baclayon, Bohol



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

Patrocinio de Santa Maria: Boljoon, Cebu



It was elevated to a parish on **October 31, 1690**, based on the decision of **Father Francisco de Zamora**, Provincial of the Augustinians, as a result of the increasing number of Christians in the area. The decision was implemented upon the appointment of **Father Nicolás de la Cuadra** as its first parish priest on **April 5, 1692**.

Patrocinio de Santa Maria: Boljoon, Cebu

Architectural features

- ❖ Twenty-eight pillars support **the 2-metre (6.6 ft) thick walls made of mortar and lime.**
- ❖ The church is a fortress church, built of **coral stones** and located on a hill near the sea. It originally served as a watchtower for possible Moro raids.
- ❖ The church is known for its original **terra cotta roof tiles** and its distinct folk art or Filipino **Baroque style**, predominantly on its choir screen and pulpit.
- ❖ Its **ceiling paintings are the work of Miguel Villareal**, a native of Boljoon. The three gates and the walls of the church are made of **coral stones and were constructed from 1802 to 1808 under the auspices of Father Bermejo**
- ❖ The main **retablo is in pseudo-baroque rococo** with gold leaf highlights and polychrome accents.

Patrocinio de Santa Maria: Boljoon, Cebu



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

San Pedro: Loboc, Bohol



After the establishment of the **Jesuit mission in Bohol**, **Father Juan de Torres**, SJ, moved to the community along the Loboc River in late 1596 to establish a second mission station. The first church, made of wood, was built by the people of the area on a site called **Calvario, Sawang**, near the location of the present-day church. It was dedicated under the patronage of **Saint Michael the Archangel**

San Pedro: Loboc, Bohol

Architectural features

❖ The coral stone church follows a **cruciform plan**, with a **sunken pyramidal roof** on its crossing. As a church built by the Jesuits, exterior walls of the church have the Jesuit insignia and icons of an angel's wing and head.

❖ The inner baroque façade, which is part of the **1734 church built by the Jesuits**, is decorated with **pilasters, capitals, blind niches and volutes**

❖ The interior of the church is adorned with **ceiling paintings by Canuto Avila** and his sons, **Ricardo and Ray Francia**, created from May 1926 to July 1927, and **retouched by Cris Naparota in 1995**

San Pedro: Loboc, Bohol



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

San Isidro Labrador: Lazi, Siquijor



Lazi (formerly *Tigbawan*) became an independent parish from [Siquijor](#) on August 8, 1857. The present [stone](#) church was built in 1884 by Filipino artisans followed by the [bell tower](#) in the following year

San Isidro Labrador: Lazi, Siquijor

Architectural features

❖ The church is built of sea stones and wood. It belongs to the **neoclassical style**. It has two pulpits and has retained its original retablo and wood floorings.

❖ The construction of the convent was made with **coral stones and hardwood**, commenced in 1887 and completed in 1891.



San Isidro Labrador: Lazi, Siquijor



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Colonial Churches in the Philippines

La Inmaculada Concepcion: Jasaan, Misamis Oriental



The first church of Jasaan was built out of lime from 1723 to 1830 under the supervision of **Fr. Ramos Cabas**, parish priest in *sitio Kabitauganin barangay Aplaya*. The first church is currently a ruins and a "cotta" or fortification is visible on the low hill near the highway.

La Inmaculada Concepcion: Jasaan, Misamis Oriental

Architectural features

- ❖ The church of Jasaan falls under **Barn Style Baroque** with originally a tripartite partition. It **spans 150 ft long and 60 ft wide**.
- ❖ The brick wall on all sides about **20 ft high and almost 4 ft thick**. The portal area leads to two semi-arched openings to the choir loft area.
- ❖ The church is flanked by square towers to a level above the apex of the pediment.
- ❖ Significant church portions includes the original brick paving, **neo-Gothic retablo**, and ceiling woodwork (**reminiscent of basket weave**).
- ❖ The church has two bell towers containing 4 bells in totality. The oldest of the four bells is dated 1807 while the largest is cast "*Nuestra Señora de la Inmaculada Concepcion de Jasaan Año 1854.*"

La Inmaculada Concepcion: Jasaan, Misamis Oriental



Colonial Churches in the Philippines

San Bautista: Jimenez, Misamis Occidental



The town of Jimenez was originally established by the **Augustinian Recollects** in 1829 and with Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary as its patron saint. The present church, built mostly from **hewn coral stone**, was erected in the 19th century on a site previously settled by the *Subanons*, a local tribe. The erection of the church structure is attributed to **Father Roque Azcona between the years 1862 to 1863**. The church was believed to have been completed in the late 1880s.

San Bautista: Jimenez, Misamis Occidental

Architectural features

- ❖ The church is predominantly **Baroque** in architecture with features reminiscent of the **Renaissance style**
- ❖ It features a portico with **three semicircular arched entrances** lined on top with a parapet.
- ❖ The interiors of the church is reportedly one of the best preserved interior of a Roman Catholic church in Mindanao.
- ❖ It features a painting done in 1898 and portions made of ***tabique pampango***, a local version of a dry wall using panels of interwoven slats or branches and covered with lime.

San Bautista: Jimenez, Misamis Occidental

